

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-7 (Canceled)

8. **(Currently Amended)** A method of manufacturing a toothbrush, said method comprising the steps of:

inserting one end of each bristles into holes formed in a head insert;

fixing the bristles into the head insert; and

attaching a base side of the head insert along with the fixed bristles to a head of the toothbrush,

wherein the method further comprises:

using a polyester bristles, one end of the polyester bristles s needle shaped and another end is on-needle shaped; and

~~in a toothbrush having needle shaped bristles,~~ the needle shaped bristles are tapered on one end thereof so that non-needle shaped ends of the bristles protrude through holes in the base side of the head insert.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the head insert is attached in an opening formed in the head of the tooth brush in the attaching step.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the head insert is attached in the opening by one of ultrasonic bonding and high frequency bonding.

11. (Original) The method of 8, further comprises the step of adjusting the tip thickness of the bristles fixed in the head insert by cutting the tips of he bristles and grinding the cut tips.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the tapered tips of the bristles are 0.01 to 0.08 mm thick.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the tapered tips of the bristles are 0.01 to 0.03

mm thick.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the tapered tips of the bristles are 0.03 to 0.08mm thick.

15-16 (Canceled)

17. (New) A method of manufacturing a toothbrush having needle-shaped bristles tapered only on one end, said method comprising the steps of:

inserting one end of the bristles into through holes of a head insert;

thermally fusing the portion protruding from the bottom of the head insert, thereby fixing the bristles to the head insert; and

attaching the head insert, in which the bristles are fixed, to the head of a brush holder manufactured in a separate injection molding machine,

wherein the bristles are made of polyester, and one end of the bristles is needle-shaped and the other end of the bristles is non-needle-shaped, thereby thermally fusing the non-needle shaped portion of the bristles to the head insert.